

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOGADI 01012 291105Z

11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 IO-14 ACDA-19 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 EUR-25 DRC-01 /184 W
----- 085682

R 280850Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2036

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1012

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR ET SO

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI RELATIONS

REF A. MOGADISCIO 839

B. MOGADISCIO 992

1. SUMMARY: ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR (AYALEW) TOLD ME THAT SOMALIS HAD MOVED BACK INTO SETTLEMENT IN ETHIOPIA WHICH THEY VACATED BEFORE SUMMIT (PARA 2, REF B) AND MATTER IS UNDER DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS. ON MORE GENERAL PLANE, AYALEW FEELS IT UNLIKELY SOMALIS WILL MOVE AGAINST ETHIOPIA DURING COMING YEAR UNLESS INTERNAL ETHIOPIAN SITUATION DISINTEGRATES. END SUMMARY.

2. AYALEW SAID SOMALI POLICE HAD A FEW DAYS AGO RETURNED TO SETTLEMENT IN QUESTION. ACCORDING AYALEW, EMPEROR HAD, DURING HIS BILATERAL DISCUSSION WITH SIAD, AGREED THAT IT WAS NOT CORRECT "ON HUMAN GROUNDS" FOR ETHIOPIANS TO HAVE INSISTED THAT SOMALIS VACATE WITHIN A FEW HOURS A SETTLEMENT THEY HAD OCCUPIED FOR YEARS, EVEN THOUGH BOTH SIDES AGREED SETTLEMENT WAS SOME TWELVE KILOMETERS ON ETHIOPIAN SIDE OF BORDER. AYALEW FEELS SIAD'S SRC COLLEAGUES PRESSURED HIM TO TAKE ADVANTAGE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOGADI 01012 291105Z

OF THESE REMARKS TO REASSERT CONTROL OVER SETTLEMENT IN QUESTION.

3. AYALEW PROTESTED SOMALI ACTION UNDER INSTRUCTIONS JUNE 25. ON JUNE 27 ACTING FONSEC, AFTER CHECKING WITH SIAD, RESPONDED THAT SOMALIS HAD OCCUPIED SETTLEMENT IN QUESTION FOR A LONG TIME AND HAD BEEN GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND DURING BILATERAL SUMMIT MEETING THAT EMPEROR WOULD NOT OBJECT TO THEIR MOVING BACK IN. AYALEW TOLD ACTING FONSEC THAT HE PERSONALLY SYMPATHIZED WITH THEIR POSITION AND WOULD RECOMMEND THAT ADDIS TAKE UNDERSTANDING ATTITUDE BUT THAT GSDR MUST REALIZE THAT SITUATION IN ADDIS IS DIFFERENT NOW THAN IT WAS SIX MONTHS AGO AND THAT THEY CANNOT NECESSARILY EXPECT AS FOREBEARING AN ATTITUDE AS IN PAST.

4. AYALEW TOLD ME HE WAS IN FACT RECOMMENDING THAT ADDIS "KEEP COOL" (INDEED HE HOPES TO GO HOME ON CONSULTATION AND LEAVE ON JULY 3) BUT HE DOES NOT RPT NOT KNOW HOW THEY WILL REACT. WHILE FONMIN VERY OPER-MINDED, THERE ARE OTHERS - HE OBVIOUSLY HAD MILITARY IN MIND - WHO ARE ADVOCATING TOUGHLINE. ADDIS IS FOCUSING MUCH MORE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN SOMALIA THAN IT WAS SOME MONTHS AGO AND ETHIOPIAN CABINET RECENTLY MET TO DISCUSS SOMALI SITUATION FOR FIRST TIME IN LONG WHILE.

5. ON MORE GENERAL SITUATION, AYALEW OBSERVED THAT A NEW UNPLEASANT THEME HAS CREPT INTO SOMALI PROPAGANDA - THAT ETHIOPIA IS A "COLONIAL" POWER AND THAT COLONIALISM KNOWS NO COLOR. ALTHOUGH THIS IS COMBINED WITH CUSTOMARY WORDS ABOUT SOMALIA'S PEACEFUL INTENTIONS, IT REPRESENTS SOME ESCALATION OF PROPAGANDA WAR. HOWEVER, HE FEELS THERE WILL BE NO ATTACK FROM SOMALIA ON ETHIOPIA THIS YEAR IF ETHIOPIAN INTERNAL SITUATION DOES NOT RPT NOT COMPLETELY DISINTEGRATE. SOMALIA HAS MANY INTERNAL PROBLEMS AND SIAD'S OAU CHAIRMANSIP CONSTITUTES SOME INHIBITION ON SOMALI MILITARY ACTION. HE NOTED THAT PRESIDENT SIAD WAS SPECULATING ABOUT WHAT GOOD OFFICES COMMITTEE MIGHT REPORT TO KAMPALA SUMMIT ONE YEAR HENCE - AYALEW FEELS THIS IS GOOD SIGN FOR SOMALI INTENTIONS OVER COMING YEAR.

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE AYALEW'S ASSESSMENT IS CONSISTENT WITH OURS AND OF COURSE IS INCONSISTENT WITH MORE ALARMIST VIEWS WHICH ETHIOPIANS HAVE GIVEN US IN ADDIS AND WASHINGTON. IF DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH THIS, WE THINK IT MIGHT BE WELL TO REITERATE THIS VIEW TO IEG TO BOLSTER AYALEW'S PRESENTATION DURING HIS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOGADI 01012 291105Z

CONSULTATIONS.

6. THIS BORDER INCIDENT COULD BE TROUBLESOME. WHILE LEGALITY IS ON ETHIOPIAN SIDE, IT IS DIFFICULT FOR SOMALIS TO GIVE UP THEIR DE FACTO OCCUPATION OF PERHAPS SEVERAL YEARS. NEVERTHELESS, SIAD'S POSITION AS OAU CHAIRMAN WILL TEND TO MAKE HIM ACT WITH MODERATION IN THIS KIND OF SMALL INCIDENT. ETHIOPIANS CAN PROBABLY GET SOMALIS OUT IF THEY USE COMBINATION OF FIRMNESS

AND TACT.
KIRK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, BOUNDARY CLAIMS, BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOGADI01012
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740173-0345
From: MOGADISCIO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974064/aaaaaded.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. MOGADISCIO 839
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI RELATIONS
TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, ET, SO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005